THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

Per Year, (in advance).....$2

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COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY.

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION.

The Expedition from New York an Monday.

WHAT CUBA IS REALLY GOOD FOR.

The Statements of the Cuban Agent at Washington--The President's View on to the Necessity of Non-Intervention--The London Press on the Question.

It was announced in the Commercial of yesterday morning, that an expedition had sailed from New York on Monday, with men and arms to aid the Cuban insurgents. It appears that the expedition was larger than at first stated. The New York *World* of yesterday gives the following account of it, which was telegraphed west. The *World* says: "The steamship Lenape was the vessel which sailed, having nearly a thousand men on board. Everything was done openly. The volunteers went on board in full steamship with their muskets over their shoulders after having partaken of a dinner at a public hotel. There was no attempt made by the United States authorities to put a stop to the expedition, although the administration must have been aware of it, as solicitous of secrecy as the people were on board belligerents in Secretary Fish's house the vessel stopped. The United States authorities here expressed their belief that the ground that an expedition could not be fitted out in the Eastern Department. The population of the white island of Cuba is under one and a half millions. The last census of 1862, which was pretty accurately taken, gives the number of slaves at 370,553, while the white population was 1,396,485, and the free colored, 225,467, and the Chinese coolies, 34,524. The slaves elected on the island of Cuba are not found in the Eastern Department. The population of the white island of Cuba is under one and a half millions. The last census of 1862, which was pretty accurately taken, gives the number of slaves at 370,553, while the white population was 1,396,485, and the free colored, 225,467, and the Chinese coolies, 34,524. The slaves elected on the island of Cuba are not found in the Eastern Department. The Spanish troops are landing from time to time in the island. The Spanish troops are landing from time to time in the island. The Spanish troops are landing from time to time in the island

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SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1869.

THE CHOLERA.

All the precautions possible on such occasions as that which disgraced our city Thursday were observed. The last hours of the unfortunate victims who captured his victims on the scaffold were soothed by the ministers of religion, and kindness and pity marked the acts of the officers of the law, in the performance of their unenviable duty. The minds were bright in scenes of oppression and cruelty were carefully excluded from the spectacle. In fact the exhibition was all that the most facetious friends of the system could have desired. It was admirably arranged, and passed off without a flaw in the programme. Yet what are its net results?

Does any one believe that the fear of a single murderer has been staged by this legal homicide? Does its lesson strike terror to the heart of the wrong doer, and will it act as a warning to those just commencing their course in the path of crime? We think not. The world has been hanging, garroting and guillotining for centuries. With all our civilization we yet preserve this relic of the days when brute force ruled mankind. With all our reformatory institutions, and amelioration of a criminal code handed down to us from darker ages we yet cling to the gallows. No ray of light is permitted to enter here. As it was so must it remain to the end. We reject the lesson of the Sermon on the Mount for the law of retaliation. Yet the crime remains. It ravages with unlimited force, and while we are prompt to avenge the victims we do not cure the evil. Lock immured in the cell of a State Prison, with no hope of ever emerging with life therefrom, would be a silent, yet living and potent witness of the certainty with which society can protect itself. But Lucas is gaily killed, passes in a brief space from memory. We have avenged the murder, it is true, but society is as much in need of protection as ever. The killing does not add an atom to our sense of security. Argue as you please—pile text upon text, and the fact remains that the old law of blood for blood set up yesterday's scaffold.

That the possibilities of which the gallows is capable, may be understood as well as its proprieties, we invite attention to the account published elsewhere of an execution a few days ago in one of the British colonies. The colonists follow the theory of capital punishment in its legitimate outline. They do not have the hangings in secret, but publicly execute their criminals, and invite the people, men and children to be present. Our people inconsistently hang in secret, as a warning and an example, but the people of Charlestontown do not confine the beneficent influence of the gallows to a Sheriff's jury and a half dozen reporters. They are right. If the warning is of a character that justifies the taking of human life, let us have it freed from all secrecy. But here comes in the rub. A public execution shows the influence of the gallows, pure and unadulterated. In a brutalizing it reduces humanity to brutality. The advocates of the blood for blood theory are very careful, therefore, that life shall be taken in private. They are not willing to accept the gallows as a popular educator, however they may insist on its retention as an ornament of our jurisprudence. The inconsistency is palpable, but it has proved the obedient influence of the keeper cord, and it chose for us all yesterday. By a happy coincidence, too, the surroundings of the gallows yesterday involved a slight aversion. It was put up in a portion of our city more than any other devoted to humanizing institutions. Within a square there were nearly a dozen, in succession, two of which are conducted purely as charities, a seminary and half a dozen newspaper offices. A supreme setting for so precious a jewel.

THE CONVENTION FOR REORGANIZATION OF THE UNION.

The Convention representing the Boards of Trade of Chicago, New York, Buffalo, Toledo and Milwaukee, in session at Chicago on Wednesday last, to consider the actual condition of the grain trade of the lake cities, intended to the great amount of obstructions and passed the usual resolutions in favor of securing water communication between the lakes and the ocean for ships of the largest class now navigating the lakes. This, it is evident, is looked upon by the people of the lake cities as their only certain method of counteracting the designs of New Orleans and St. Louis to make the Mississippi river useful as well as ornamental to the business interests of the Northwest. The plans of reaching the ocean suggested in the convention were entertained, and it was compiled, in a diversity of counsel, to reject all special suggestions, and content itself with a general resolution recommending the several Boards of Trade represented, "to take into consideration the most feasible means of securing water communication from the lakes to the ocean, for ships of the largest class now navigating the lakes, and present their views through their representatives at the next meeting of the National Board of Trade."

Some members of the convention feared the enlargement of the Erie or Oswego Canals to the capacity of propeller navigation, while others thought the true way out of the danger lied in the construction of the Niagara Ship Canal. The transfer of the Erie Canal to the Federal Government by the State of New York was highly spoken of, on the theory, we suppose, that if the Government accepts the transfer it will be in duty bound to make the canal a free avenue, long as it may exist in the opinion of the people of the United States for the opposite mouth of the Erie Canal. At the close the convention invited the committees of commerce of money sufficient to build another Pacific Railroad, and we do not see that the people outside the belt of lake cities are sufficiently interested in preventing the grain products of the Northwest seeking an outlet down the Mississippi, to consent to any such extravagant outlay. It may be true that the Mississippi is a great nuisance to the business interests of Chicago, but it is hardly fair to ask us to aid in digging a rival stream out of the ground, where nature failed to place one. It is an oversight, undoubtedly, that the Mississippi don't rush into water via Chicago, but it can be accounted for satisfactorily on the hypothesis that it antedates the thriving city on the northwest corner of Lake Michigan.

NEW ORLEANS.

The House of Lords of England is a venerable and respectable institution, made much of by the London shop keepers, and admired lovingly by all the popular novelists, but it has fallen into intellectual decay. The House of Commons is the governing power of the Kingdom; the peers originate very little that is useful, ornamental or influential in legislation, and they can oppose nothing. They are, in fact, a sort of "heavy father" of the old comedy school to the whole British nation. As an organized body the peers no longer maintain the position they are fairly entitled to, by their wealth, culture and social prominence. The American Senate, modeled as a conservative branch of our national legislature, somewhat after the House of Lords, is active, vigilant and very often aggressive, the Lords are always devoted to precedent, and worthy imbecile as well public business.

Earl Russell, who since his transfer to a peerage and the House of Lords has suffered from the constitutional characteristics of that body, proposes a reform in the Lords. Reform in the Commons is always in order, for there the power of the people is manifested, but the idea of putting the progressive mechanism of the age into the House of Lords almost outrages one's notions of fitness to take from the proposition. But Earl Russell is a keen business man. He is old, but garrulous as Sir Isaac Brock, and does not relish the death-like sleep that has come over the higher order of the English nobility. His proposition is to enable the Queen to create a certain number of life peerages. He proposes four a year; the number not to exceed twenty-eight at any time—too slight a foundation, in a body of six hundred members, to save it from ruin. These buildings to life are to be rewards for distinguished services in arts and arms. The evident defect in the proposition is that the flow of new blood is too limited, and instead of the aristocracy being made from men with a career before them, the life peers will be selected from those who have accomplished their mission in the world. But even this acknowledges a defect in the composition of the House of Lords, and will pave the way for future improvements.

SPAIN AND HER CONSTITUTION.

Late cable telegrams announce that the debate in the Constituent Cortes at Madrid, on the new Constitution, submitted by the Committee of Fifteen appointed by that body, had terminated, and that all the amendments proposed here been rejected. We presume that the best intelligence will announce the ratification of the Constitution by the Cortes, and the promulgation to the people of Spain as the fundamental law of the Kingdom. The amendments spoken of as rejected were those submitted by the Republican Deputies.

The new Constitution is most respects a remarkable document, as it embodies nearly all the leading constitutional principles in use by Anglo-Saxon communities —freedom of speech, freedom from arbitrary arrest, freedom of education, and of worship, and of organization, and the responsibility of public functionaries before the courts for their acts, whether official or non-official. This last rule is the base of constitutional liberty, and it is stated that no other community of the "Latin race" has yet contrived to adopt it. The Catholic Church, under the new Constitution, is to continue the state church, but the exercise of all other forms of faith, built by Spaniards and resident foreigners, is permitted. This is a great stride for Spain, as it will induce religious activity in the Kingdom which cannot be otherwise than beneficial to the spiritual and material interests of people. Even Spanish Catholicism will become more liberal and progressive. The suffrage in the Constitution makes it universal. The ministers of the crown are to be responsible to the Cortes, as in England they are to the Commons. The Cortes is to be composed of a Senate and Congress—the former to be one-fourth renewed every three years, the latter to be totally renewed every three years. The provisions relating to the duration of the Cortes, the relations to the King—for the Government is to be a monarchy—its working, procedure, and dissolution, its powers and duties and privileges, closely resemble those of the English Parliament. The powers and duties of the King are the ordinary ones of a limited monarch; the crown is to be hereditary under the law of primogeniture, but without exclusion of the female line. Armies are maintainable only by annual enactment.

The Republican members of the Cortes made a stand against a monarchy, but in vain, as a majority of the Deputies, including Prim, Sonnazo and other influential leaders of the revolution, were strenuous that the form of government should be that of a constitutional monarchy. At this time, it is, probably, the most suitable rule for Spain, as the knowledge of a great majority of the people of the principles of popular government is exceedingly limited, and there is danger that an experiment in republicanism would result in anarchy. The debate in the Cortes on the question was exceedingly animated, and the Republican orators displayed great ability. In the debate, Castelar, a leading Republican and a noted orator, after referring to the dedication of the Spanish throne by a Coburg prince, declared:

"Upon the crown no ground for a head so small. We are the nation who wear the sun as a diadem, and who have the stars of heaven diamond in our crown. Well, instead of taking all the world could be a master, in its end we have been the masters of the world. We have been the country, and the continent of all the oceans. We have been the people who understood their duties, as well as their rights, and as we do not now intend to be the people who forget their duties, we also will know how to guard well. Consider then, gentlemen, to compare the proposed constitution with the constitutions of the United States as the most democratic constitution, and with the constitution of the kingdom of Italy as the most monarchical constitution, and you will see that the constitution of the United States is the most democratic constitution that ever came from the hands of the people. Where a nation called Lincoln, and a people called Lincoln, and a genius called Lincoln, and a great man called Lincoln, and a great statesman called Lincoln grew by the law of liberty. The moral force of that nation, which has conquered slavery, which has conquered secession, which has conquered the most powerful coalition that ever existed, and wanted to pound even seas of blood, and which has conquered, by its spirit, strongly against the monarchical being hereditary, and which has conquered, by its arms, the most powerful government for a monarchy, the name of the party who limited it was for it to be called, democratic, democratic, democratic."

This given an idea of the manner in which the Republican deputies confronted the discussion. Castelar, alluding to Monarchists, who will probably be named King by the Cortes, said he was like his fellow Louis Famineux, "perfection in the domestic circle and private life, but corrupt in his public and political life." He then made a skilful allusion to Pam, Sagasta and Rivaro, asking what need had Spain with a foreign king, when they could have a Republic with those great men of their own at the front. Sagasta replied to the speech, complimenting the wonderful eloquence of Castelar, but avowing monarchical principles, and in this position he has since been sustained by a large majority of the Cortes.

SOUTHERN POLITICS.

A ray of light seems to be penetrating the camp of the Bourbon politicians of Virginia, and if it flames out brightly and steadily we anticipate the most gratifying results, not only in the Old Dominion but in the other Southern States recently admitted and unreconstructed. The Convention in session at Richmond on Wednesday and Thursday last, comprised a fair and full representation of the solid Democracy of the State, and in the list of delegates we recognize the names of prominent politicians before the war, and active rebels during the strife. There were two parties in the Convention, who may be classified, we suppose, as the moderately progressive Conservative rebels and old fossil type. The latter were in favor of declaring the Fourteenth amendment unconstitutional, and therefore unworthy of notice, they also wanted the white man's government idea adopted, and favored a resolution that a negro must be half and never would, could or should vote. The moderates, under the leadership of Roman Gwin, Wickham, Munford and others, were willing to concede the fact of the deluge. They accepted the resignation of the candidates previously set up by the Conservatives, and urged their party to still be in defending the discussions preceding the Reconstruction Constitution. They declined to make nominations, or pronounce against the Constitution as a whole, "feeling that the course will act for the best interests of the State." This policy was informed by the Convention on Thursday evening, there being but five dissenting votes.

There are now two Republican candidates for Governor of Virginia, and two sets of State officers nominated. One is headed by Wagar, the present Governor, who is very unpopular with the best men of his party, among the native whites. The other candidate, styled a "conservative Republican," is a Mr. Wickham. The action of the convention on Thursday above referred to, probably settles the question of the election of Wagar, and defeat of Wagar. The hope of the latter was that the Bourbon Democracy would succeed in their plan of putting up a third candidate.

Virginia, therefore, it seems to us, has got its plain sailing ahead. Wagar, a Conservative Republican, will be chosen Governor by a union of the moderate Republicans and Democrats. The Reconstruction Constitution, shorn of its most atrocious provisions by the separate vote recommended to Congress by General Canby, will be adopted as the organic law of the State, and under the Constitution the "Ancient Dominion" will resume, not exactly her old place, but certainly a place in the Union. Her past influence will hardly be regained, but she will always be an important Commonwealth, politically and in all other respects, when the wealth that rots in her mountains and valleys is developed by the magical touch of free labor.

SUGGESTIVE QUERIES.

Sumner has practically abolished capital punishment. No executions have taken place during the last two years, though a number of persons are lying in prison under sentence of death. The object in not leaving death warrants for these convicts appears to be a desire to ascertain whether public security will be promoted by an abolition of the death penalty before formally passing a law to that effect. This is fair, and as opponents of capital punishment we have no objection to the test. The amended criminal code of Sweden, adopted in 1861, reduced the offences punished by death from sixty-eight to a very few crimes, such as murder and robbery with violence. Besides, the Judges can substitute penal servitude for hanging. Since 1859, only seven persons have been executed, of sixty-one have been condemned to capital punishment, and two hundred and thirty-two to penal servitude for life.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS.

The list of aspirants for seats in the Legislature includes the names of upwards of twenty-five gentlemen, some of whom have served at Harrisburg, and others who would be the veriest novices at the business of law making. In some respects, experience at the State capital should be considered as adding to the qualifications of candidates, but this all turns on the point whether the experience has been of the right kind. A member who has passed through the fermentation of a session, and exhausted his personal and political honesty, would be of greater service to his constituents than an entirely new man of the same average capacity. But the point should be clearly determined that aspirants seeking re-election have come out of the ordeal unscathed, not only of the taint of personal debasement, but of having sanctioned extravagant and ingrafted schemes of legislation. Some persons who would reject with scorn every attempt at influencing their official action by a corrupt consideration, are yet among the foremost in degrading legislation by the sly and covert scheme of profligate expenditure. They may not profit a penny, but looking the finances to actively oppose, the more harm by their example and the influence of their reputation for amiable integrity, than the most corrupt of the thoroughbred "shysters." Such persons should be carefully excluded from a place on the ticket. Of course it is not necessary to recommend that those whose general reputation is bad should be ignored in the nominations. The people have made up their mind to do this, and the prospects are very fair that the effort will be successful.

If we are ever to secure an honest and efficient representation at Harrisburg, it should be done this year through the instrumentality of the Republican organization. If we fail, it would almost demonstrate the incapacity of the people for self-government. The nominations are brought so decidedly home to every member of the party that nothing but the most shameful neglect of duty at the primary meetings, will prevent the selection of gentlemen of integrity, firmness and ability. The convention to nominate Senators and Representatives is called for that purpose solely; there will be no opportunity to trade and barter votes on other offices, and the delegates will have plenty of time to make careful choice from the names before them. Hitherto the nominations of assemblymen have been generally made when the convention was wearied, and the members anxious to get to their homes. The coming convention will have but a small amount of work before it, and there can be no excuse for slighting its performance. Of course, all will depend upon the character of the delegates, and particularly upon the firmness with which the people of the rural districts adhere to the determination to send as delegates only Republicans who will consider that in the renomination of honest, true and brave men lies the highest political expediency. With such men in the convention, even an outspoken minority of such men, the Legislative ticket may be made an honor to the Republican party, and a credit to the whole people of Allegheny county.

PROTECTION OF RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

The recent terrible accident on the Long Island Railroad was the result of a defective rail, not only was the iron of which the rail was made bad, but it had become worn out, rugged, and brittle. The occurrence of railroad disasters are arguments in favor of supplanting the iron with steel rails. Wherever tested, the latter metal has not only proved cheaper, but infinitely safer. We have seen references to the experiments made on several leading roads, and breakage of steel rails exceeds but little over one to every thousand tons in use. On some of these roads they have been down for a period of three or four years, on the other hand, the breakage of iron rails on the Erie road during last winter reached one thousand a month. The President of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railway thus speaks of the quality of steel rails, and the basis applied to them:

"The first steel rail imported has already worn as it appears from rails, and we have not now any reason to suppose that they will not last a period of ordinary quality. But there is great fear on my part, that railroad companies with themselves, and the public generally, are too much inclined to buying the cheapest, but not only considering the first cost, but the economies, the cost with continued use, the cheapest and best article is good enough for them, but cheapest is good enough for them, but cheapest is steel.

We are finishing our road with the object for hardness with the requirement for toughness, and for strength with the 1,200 pound drop, fifteen feet, the rail resting on supports nine feet apart. The rail was tested with a 1,200 pound drop, fifteen feet, the rail resting on supports nine feet apart. Having passed successfully under the test, we have ordered 1,000 tons, in the rails. Pointing in bed enough for iron, but much to

Weekly Commercial.

THE GIBBET:

EXECUTION OF LOUIS LANE.

A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE

THE HISTORY OF HIS TRIAL.

Scenes at the Jail and on the Scaffold.

The Body Demanded for Surgical Purposes.

At seven o'clock Thursday Louis Lane, the wife poisoner, paid the penalty of his horrible crime, by being executed in the jail yard of this city and county, in the same place, where many others, guilty of the crime of murder, have met a similar fate. He displayed an unusual amount of courage, and walked calmly to the scaffold, expressing his confidence in the religious faith, which he had adopted. He manifested no feeling when he stood on the fatal trap, and died as he had lived, without exhibiting any indication of fear.

The circumstances of the trial of Lane have been generally published, but it may not be unentertaining to the reader, to have a brief recapitulation of the facts, which together, as adduced at the trial, fully established the guilt of the prisoner, and a recital of his crime, and account of his arrest, will be found below.

LIFE OF LANE.

The early life of Lane is involved in mystery. He stated upon which he subsequently gave conflicting statements about his parentage, birth-place, &c. He was born near Watertown, London county, Virginia, between fifty and sixty years ago. His father was a farmer, and owned a number of negroes, who were first hired on a plantation, afterwards as a waiter and gentleman, whose name Lane could not remember, and finally as coachman, and servant of his father, with whom he remained until the breaking out of the war.

LIFE OF LANE.

When about twenty-two years of age Lane was married to a young lady, whose name he says he will withhold, as she is still living in Cleveland. To this union four children were born, two of whom died in infancy. Lane resided in or near his father-in-law's farm, in West Virginia, and left his wife at home and came to Wellsburg where he worked at the carpenter trade, and subsequently moved to Steubenville, Ohio, and was employed by Mr. Hancock, in the construction of the Ohio river road, and from there he went to Wheeling. He then went to Cleveland, on a visit to his wife, and from there he went to Akron, and worked at the carpenter trade, and then came over into Summit county, and worked at Hudson, Cuyahoga Falls, and Middlebury, and then went to Wellsburg. Only authority after this he was with his father-in-law, and then went to Cleveland, and remained with his wife and children until the fall of 1867, when he left for Pittsburgh.

LANE AND HIS FAMILY.

Lane was attracted from the penitentiary in 1867, and subsequently married a young lady employed in the store of Wm. Barker, and dealer on Smithfield street, and a few months after he married his wife and ran off with whom he had been living for some time. He was arrested for the murder of whom Lane does not rejoice that she is dead.

LANE AND HIS WIFE.

On the 5th of May, Mrs. Henrietta Lane, wife of Louis Lane, died suddenly at the house where she and Louis lived, in the rear of No. 81 Wylie street. The circumstances of her death are familiar to the household of the neighborhood, arising primarily from the strange conduct of Louis before and after her death, and it was not until the 7th of May that the suspicions aroused by his actions were sufficiently definite to warrant the holding of an inquest by the coroner. The inquest was held on the 7th, and the jury, after hearing the testimony of the boarders in the house, and the physicians who had attended the deceased, rendered a verdict that she came to her death by poison administered by her husband, Louis Lane.

THE ARREST.

Lane was arrested on the 7th, and committed to the county jail, to await the action of the Coroner's jury. He was brought before Alderman Kerr, on the 8th, and committed to answer the charge of murder. He was brought before Judge Hampton, on the 10th, and remanded to jail, to await the action of the Grand Jury.

THE TRIAL.

The trial of Lane was commenced on Monday, the 26th of October, 1868, and occupied the attention of the court for three days. The following is the jury empanelled to try the case:

Jacob Bowers, Allegheny city—Ward 1, Select.
Thomas Bell, Allegheny city—Ward 2, Select.
Thomas Bell, Allegheny city—Ward 3, Select.
Thomas Bell, Allegheny city—Ward 4, Select.
Thomas Bell, Allegheny city—Ward 5, Select.
Thomas Bell, Allegheny city—Ward 6, Select.
Thomas Bell, Allegheny city—Ward

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SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1869.

FROM

THE SUN OF THE AFRICANS.

An influential assembly of Cubans has declared that the objects sought to be accomplished by the revolution are rest independence, and then annexation to the United States. As a necessary corollary, the emancipation of the slaves follows, but this has been done wherever the insurgents have achieved and maintained power, and was early laid down as one of the principles of the revolution. Cuban affairs within the past ten days have assumed a more encouraging appearance for the insurgents, and the moral and material aid they are now receiving will be largely increased as the prospects of success continue to brighten.

President Grant is reported as opposed to active intervention, or even to the recognition of the belligerency of the islanders. That would possibly complicate our relations with Great Britain, especially as that power, for obvious reasons is willing to concede to the Cubans the same recognition extended to the South in 1861. General Grant thinks matters are progressing fairly enough on the island without official encouragement from the United States, and that the triumph of the patriots is now almost secured. This position will not preclude the same degree of sidelong refunded to the struggling people that we gave to Texas in her revolt against Mexico, or to the latter country in her contest with Maximilian, and his sickly and abortive Empire. Neither will it be necessary for us to equip Alabamas to prey upon Spanish commerce.

There is much in the cause the Cubans are struggling for to commend it to the sympathies of the American people, even without considering the harsh and blood-thirsty measures adopted by the Spaniards to suppress the revolt. The Cubans have abolished slavery wherever they possessed power, and are fighting for principles which underlie every just government—Representation, the severance of Church and State, and general emancipation, were the demands at the outset of the rebellion. But success has enlarged them, in a certain sense, by confining their struggle to the single issue of independence. This is the latest phase of the rebellion, and its success will secure all that the islanders claim, and overthrow in succession Under Spanish rule Cuba had no representation in the Cortes of the mother country, and no voice in determining the amount or method of the taxes which she must raise. She has been for centuries almost the cattle of the Spanish crown. The rule of the Viceroy has been absolute, the exercise of the right of petition has been followed by expatriation and imprisonment and the ports of the island have been closed to foreign ships. In fact, every device has been tried to plunder the people that avarice or fanaticism could suggest. Neither had religious liberty a place in the code for the rule of Cuba. One form of faith was the established law of the island.

The Cubans have taken up arms against greater grievances than our fathers did in 1776, for the sway of Georges III., a hundred years ago, was much milder in form than the outrageous exactions and petty tyrannies of the Spanish Government and its representative Viceroy of to-day. It could not be discovered than that the sympathies of the American people—setting aside the selfish consideration of annexation—should be with the patriots now on the battlefields of the statesmen Carteret and his associates, the gallant soldiers Quesada.

POLITICAL PROGRESS IN VIRGINIA.

The wise and moderate action of the so-called Conservative Convention at Richmond, Va., last week has already borne a hundred with beneficial results in the restoration of the patriotism of Virginia to the Union of the States. The natural sympathies of the Old Dominion were with the South in the struggle for a Confederacy of slaveholding States against the North. In commanding, in some degree, the efforts of every

which can now be kept it among its creditors is that it will afford a good security for its first mortgage bonds, and will be sold by the Government to obtain something towards a return for the subsidies granted.

We trust that we shall soon have, from the Government Directors recently appointed, a thorough exposition of the affairs of the Company—a statement in all respects reliable, and one that cannot be impugned in any particular, by charges that it is prompted by disappointment in securing a share of the plunder.

Kentucky is moved to accept negro testimony in her courts to avoid the practical overthrow of the State judiciary, by the interposition of the Federal Courts in all cases arising under the Civil Rights law. If a negro is denied justice, or the right of giving his testimony, in the local courts, he may have his wrongs remedied in the United States tribunals. The Civil Rights law is demonstrated to be a reality in Kentucky. Only a few days since, the Judge of the United States District Court, at Louisville, prevented the execution of a negro convicted of murder, by staying proceedings, on the ground that the criminal had not been protected in his rights under the Constitution, in the trial in the State Court. This interposition is making friends for the proposition to amend the laws of Kentucky, so that negroes will be allowed to testify, and moves the Louisville *Courier-Journal* to these declarations:

"The admission of negro testimony in the courts of Kentucky is not a concession to the blacks, but a submission of justice to white men. The issue is not with the negro. They are perfectly content with the present unequal discrimination in New York. Let the people, they have a double chance in every case and are assured of justice. The white litigants at a disadvantage. It is not to benefit the negro that we plead, but to secure to white men the same degree of safety that we give to the negro. Justice is all we ask. Let the negro testify as he pleases, and let the white man testify as he pleases, and let the jury judge of the credibility of the witnesses. Exclude the negro testimony, and you exclude the white man's testimony. Admit the one, and you admit the other. Neither will it be necessary for us to equip Alabamas to prey upon Spanish commerce.

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The Cubans have taken up arms against greater grievances than our fathers did in 1776, for the sway of George III., a hundred years ago, was much milder in form than the outrageous exactions and petty tyrannies of the Spanish Government and its representative Viceroy of to-day. It could not be discovered than that the sympathies of the American people—setting aside the selfish consideration of annexation—should be with the patriots now on the battlefields of the statesmen Carteret and his associates, the gallant soldiers Quesada.

POLITICAL PROGRESS IN VIRGINIA.

The wise and moderate action of the so-called Conservative Convention at Richmond, Va., last week has already borne a hundred with beneficial results in the restoration of the patriotism of Virginia to the Union of the States. The natural sympathies of the Old Dominion were with the South in the struggle for a Confederacy of slaveholding States against the North. In commanding, in some degree, the efforts of every

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That's an acknowledgment that since a resolution of the situation. The case was not just or good, but the fact of a defeat seemed to be questionable, and its admission is worth recording. The Richmond *Enquirer* is reconciled to the position of things, and gives us the following as its issue of Monday last:

"It is now certain that Virginia will go into the Union under the Underwood constitution in some form. The question is only how the constitution is to be settled. In some respects we regret that we are to have to do with Congress, but we are not to blame for it, and we may console ourselves in time for all we can do. We may be true, and yet live to repent and we have indisputable facts. Weather get our next information through the agitation of contending parties. The proposition is familiar to all readers. Passengers over Mr Stone's debate as to the imperfect construction of the coal, we come to the financial statements with which he concludes his report. He makes a careful estimate of the actual cost of the construction and equipment of the road, from Omaha was eleven hundred miles, and shows that it cannot be as much as $30,000,000, and that the road would not be worth more, if not, but that at least one-third of the rolling stock and portions of the road will be worn out before it is opened. On the other hand, the liabilities of the Company, without reducing the capital stock, are already at the completion $73,753,967. It stood as follows:

[illegible]

It would seem to follow that a profit of something like thirty millions of dollars has been divided among the projectors and promoters of the road, and that the stupid

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The *Enquirer* goes into an advocacy of Wheeler for Governor against Walker, on that it loves Walkers much, but it hates Walker more. They are both Republicans and carpet-baggers. Think of the Richmond *Enquirer* accepting a "carpet-bagger" in lieu of Colonel Wickham, the withdrawal candidate, and one of the citizenry! We do not blame it with its acquiescence, but on the contrary congratulate it.

Then we have news of a committee of ten to wait on the President, made up of representative conservatives and including the names A. H. H. Stuart, Fitzhugh McMaster, Baldwin, Montet, ex-Governor Smith and others. This committee is reported as having prepared a statement to be submitted to President Grant, satisfactorily as follows:

"Virginia accepts the situation—even the last situation, Fifteenth Amendment and all—the convention will throw the issue which we put in the field, with the consent not only of the convention itself, and the dissidents of equity, unconstitutional, becoming nugatory, and the people will be free to vote for whom they will. In two years we can get rid of the obnoxious provisions of the proposed Constitution, by a separate vote, in order to have them defeated if we can. One of those is the imposition of the test oath, which, of course, will be repealed. Moreover, further than that prescribed by congress, and of which we have the initiative. The time seems to which we can look for relief from existing organizations, the effect of which is to keep the people in a state of excitement and we want, unduly, to defeat, so far as we can, the imposition of any political disabilities. We desire to be left to the universal amnesty, and in return are willing to vote universal suffrage. We propose to submit the question of universal suffrage in Virginia not separately, but along with the body of the constitution, and to stand or fall with it. We are convinced that Congress will not submit to so different universal suffrage, as we might as well say that it will not submit.

The influence of Virginia with the other Southern States is very great, and we look to see its example closely followed by Mississippi and Texas. Georgia will then swing into line, and early next winter we hope to record the complete reconstruction of the late rebellious States, the representation of every State in Congress, and a restoration of prosperity to all parts of the South. Reconstruction will then be complete, and exceptional legislation for any portion of the nation at an end.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD EXPOSE.

The report of Mr. Cisco, late a Government Director of the Union Pacific Railroad, is not very pleasant reading, now that we are all congratulating ourselves on the completion of the great enterprise, and getting ready our commercial conventions. It is alleged that Mr. Cisco has been induced to report unfavorably to the interests of the Company because he failed to obtain contracts. This may be true, and yet his report may contain indisputable facts. Weather get our next information through the agitation of contending parties. The proposition is familiar to all readers. Passengers over Mr Stone's debate as to the imperfect construction of the coal, we come to the financial statements with which he concludes his report. He makes a careful estimate of the actual cost of the construction and equipment of the road, from Omaha was eleven hundred miles, and shows that it cannot be as much as $30,000,000, and that the road would not be worth more, if not, but that at least one-third of the rolling stock and portions of the road will be worn out before it is opened. On the other hand, the liabilities of the Company, without reducing the capital stock, are already at the completion $73,753,967. It stood as follows:

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Tax English press looks forward to the coming of Mr Motley, as Minister, with a feeling of satisfaction, because the country will be relieved from the excessive lucubrations of Mr. Reverdy Johnson. "Mr Motley is not likely to repeat his predecessor's blunder." says the *Star*, "and for our parts we are glad of it. There is nothing particularly mutilated into England just now that we know of. And if there were, we would rather not hear of it so often." There is a limit, of course, to the capacity of a people for flattery, and Mr. Johnson has reached it. Mr Motley is not likely to repeat his predecessor's blunder.

The New York Legislature has passed a law to protect the public against ignorant quackery in medicine. It provides, under heavy penalties, that no person shall prescribe or practice medicine in the State except by a prescription license in the event of any State in Congress, and a restoration of prosperity to all parts of the South. Reconstruction will then be complete, and exceptional legislation for any portion of the nation at an end.

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Tax Democrats as a party are on record as an honest ballot has often been charged. Frauds that this is an accurate fact. On Monday last a new law for the registration of voters was passed in the New York Assembly, by a vote of 62 yeas to 39 nays. Every vote in the negative was given by a Democrat, and not one Democrat voted in the affirmative. This law was introduced especially to check illegal voting, and to prevent, so far as possible, the assignment of such frauds as those that disgraced the city of New York last fall. Yet there was not found a single Democrat to evidence the principle in voting.

Governor Hoffman continues to show of cotton on the New York Legislature, but for his refusal to veto the new school law for New York city he has incurred the hostility of the *World*. The withholding of the veto in this case, the *World* argues, was to repay obligations to the "ring." The Governor seems to have a ball of thorns before him.

A Washington dispatch states that one thing is certain, that Mr. Johnson will not be the Democratic candidate now, but is almost equally certain that no prominent man in a prospective leaving nothing to the United States Senate or consenting when suffrage becomes universal in the South.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 5, 1869.

The local money market showed symptoms of closeness to-day, although borrowers in good credit were able to get a reasonable amount at accommodations. Paper on the outside market was noticed was more difficult to place, and rates were stiffer and higher. In New York money was reported stringent, and discount rates higher, seven per cent. in gold being the rate. It is announced by the *New York Post* of last evening that the accuracy of the gold few days is attributed to the disinclination of loans inclined to the withdrawal from the market of gold by the combination operating for a rise in the premium. The rates paid for carrying gold to-day do not indicate that any considerable amount has been taken off the market, but we know that a number of houses, rather than pay seven to ten per cent. for carrying, have in some instances carried their gold with their own funds and in other cases have taken it to their banks and pledged it. This has had the natural effect of diminishing for the time, the amount which both these usual lenders and the banks have been accustomed to lend to stock brokers. As the amount of loanable funds is not lessened by the operation, it is likely that the whole effect will equalize itself within a few days.

The same paper says: The government bond market during the morning has been steady and the volume of business rather under the average amount. The foreign list was not doing large business, the sales of bonds in the London market having been small. Our own exchange arguments in State bonds the principal features at the regular board were the sales of Pennsylvania sixes, which were 2 per cent. higher than the last sale, and Virginia sixes, which were 2 per cent. lower than the last sale. Pennsylvania sixes were sold at 100 and 100½, and Virginia sixes at 60 and 60½. Tennessee sixes were offered at 70 and Missouri sixes at 85 for cash. Virginia coupons were sold at 60 and 60½, and Tennessee coupons at 70 for cash. Louisiana consolidated sixes were offered at 70 for sale. Virginia coupons were sold at a fraction over 60 cents on the dollar yesterday. The Louisiana bonds (including the new issue) were sold at a fraction over 70 cents on the dollar.

Messrs. Dr. R. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of governmental bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by *Jay Cooke & Co.*, their correspondents:

	Buyers.	Sellers.	Close
6's, 1881, coupon			
6's, 1881, registered			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue			
6's, 1881, registered, new issue			

James T. Brady & Co., bankers of Fourth street and Wood street, quote United States bonds as follows:

	Buy'g.	Selling.
6's, 1881, coupon		
6's, 1881, registered		
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue		
6's, 1881, registered, new issue		
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue		
6's, 1881, registered, new issue		
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue		
6's, 1881, registered, new issue		
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue		
6's, 1881, registered, new issue		
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue		
6's, 1881, registered, new issue		
6's, 1881, coupon, new issue		
6's, 1881, registered, new issue		

The bumper of the New York stock market is decidedly "bearish." It is reported that some of the "bull" cliques will firmly unite the late rise in stocks, and their present policy appears to be that of "bearing" the market. The following extract from the *Herald* of this morning is worth reading:

"The following table, made up from the various reports published in Kennedy's Stock Quotations, Associated Publishing Co., 50 Nassau street, shows the prices of Railway stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Board during the day:

	Nov. 6, 1868.	Dec. 6, 1868.	Jan. 6, 1869.	Feb. 6, 1869.	Mar. 6, 1869.	Apr. 6, 1869.	May 6, 1869.
Gold							
Pacific Mail							
New York Central							
Erie							
Hudson River							
Reading							
Michigan Central							
Michigan Southern							
Illinois Central							
Cleveland & Pittsburg							
Chicago & Rock Island							
Pittsburg & Fort Wayne							
Western Union Telegraph							

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Thurs.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
N. Y. Central				
Hudson River				
Reading				
Michigan Central				
Michigan Southern				
Illinois Central				
Cleveland & Pittsburg				
Chicago & Rock Island				
Pittsburg & Fort Wayne				
Western Union Telegraph				
Quicksilver				
Mariposa				
Mariposa Preferred				
Ohio & Mississippi				
Canton Co.				
Cumberland Coal				
New York Central scrip				
Boston & Albany				
Chicago & Northwestern				
Chicago & Northwestern preferred				
Chicago & Alton				
Terre Haute				
Terre Haute preferred				
Pacific Mail				
Panama				
Adams Express				
American Express				
United States Express				
Wells, Fargo & Co.				

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 5, 1869.

Trade to-day in our general markets was more active. Flour is declining, owing to the advance in wheat westward. Grain and feed are active and firm. In grain there is more doing. Choice butter is in good demand. Eggs are in good supply and quiet. Groceries are ruling firm. Provisions are dull and unchanged.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale dure prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Choice apples are scarce. We quote new at $2 50 @ $3 00 per barrel, and choice at $2 25@ 2 50 per barrel.

BACON—Market dull, with sales of choice sugar cured hams at 18c, to quality, from store.

BUTTER—Choice butter is in good demand, with only moderate supplies. Prices for choice are unchanged from Monday's, with some sales at 40c. Low grades are in good supply and dull at 25@ 30.

BEANS—The market is in good supply, and but a moderate demand at $2 75@ 3 00.

CHEESE—Prices are steady. Trade active and holders firm at our last quotations. We quote sheddar from at 18@20c; full cream 16@17c; good skims 12@13c; Limburger 18@20c; Swiss 20@22c; Pineapple and Neufchatel cream 20@22c; Edam 90@$1 00 each.

EGGS—Market steady. Extra No. 1 fresh at 25 and No. 2 at 22@23c.

FEATHERS—Market firm at 55 for mixed and 60@65 for prime.

FISH—Mackerel dull at $5 for No. 3 and $6 for No. 2 quality. Trade active and holders firm at our last quotations. We quote shad at $12@13 per barrel; No. 1 mackerel $20@22; No. 2 do $18@19; No. 3 do $15@16; No. 1 herring $8 50@9 00; No. 2 do $7 50@8 00; No. 3 do $6 50@7 00; No. 1 salmon $22@23; No. 2 do $20@21; No. 3 do $18@19; No. 1 trout $12@13; No. 2 do $10@11; No. 3 do $8@9; No. 1 white fish $10@11; No. 2 do $8@9; No. 3 do $6@7; No. 1 lake trout $12@13; No. 2 do $10@11; No. 3 do $8@9.

FLOUR—Market steady. Extra No. 1 $5 to $5 50; extra family $6 50@7 00; fancy $7 50@8 00; patent process $8 50@9 00.

FRUIT—Choice peaches are in light supply, with sales of prime at 18@20c. Apples are dull, and choice for choice lots are offered at 25@30 per bushel.

GRAIN—Corn in good demand and firm at 90@92c for shelled. Oats are in good demand and firm at 60@62c per bushel. Oats are dull at $2 50@2 60 per bushel.

GREEN FRUITS—Choice peaches are in light supply, with sales of prime at 18@20c. Apples are dull, and choice for choice lots are offered at 25@30 per bushel.

HAY—Prime timothy is in good demand at $20@21 per ton from store.

HOPS—The market is fairly supplied and dull. We quote at 35@40c.

HONEY—Choice in comb at 30@35c per pound.

LARD—Prime kettle rendered is in good demand at 18@19c per pound.

LIME—Market dull at $1 50@1 60 per barrel.

MOLASSES—Choice sugar drips are in demand at 60@65c per gallon.

NAILS—Market dull at 5@5½ per keg.

OILS—Market dull and unchanged. We quote as follows: Linseed, raw, 1 00@1 05; boiled, 1 05@1 10; lard oil, extra, 1 50@1 60; No. 1, 1 40@1 45; No. 2, 1 30@1 35; sperm, 2 25@2 50; coal oil, crude, 25@30c; refined, 35@40c; castor, 2 25@2 50; neatsfoot, 1 50@1 60; tanners', 1 00@1 10; bank, 90@95c; whale, 1 00@1 10; straits, 1 00@1 10; miners', 1 00@1 10; winter strained, 1 10@1 15; elain, 1 25@1 30; bergamot, 3 00@3 25; lemon, 3 00@3 25; origanum, 1 50@1 60; pennyroyal, 1 50@1 60; rosemary, 1 50@1 60; sassafras, 1 25@1 30; sperm, 2 75@3 00; tanners', 1 00@1 10; tanners' extra, 1 00@1 10; whale,